



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

10 March 2005

National Ocean Service

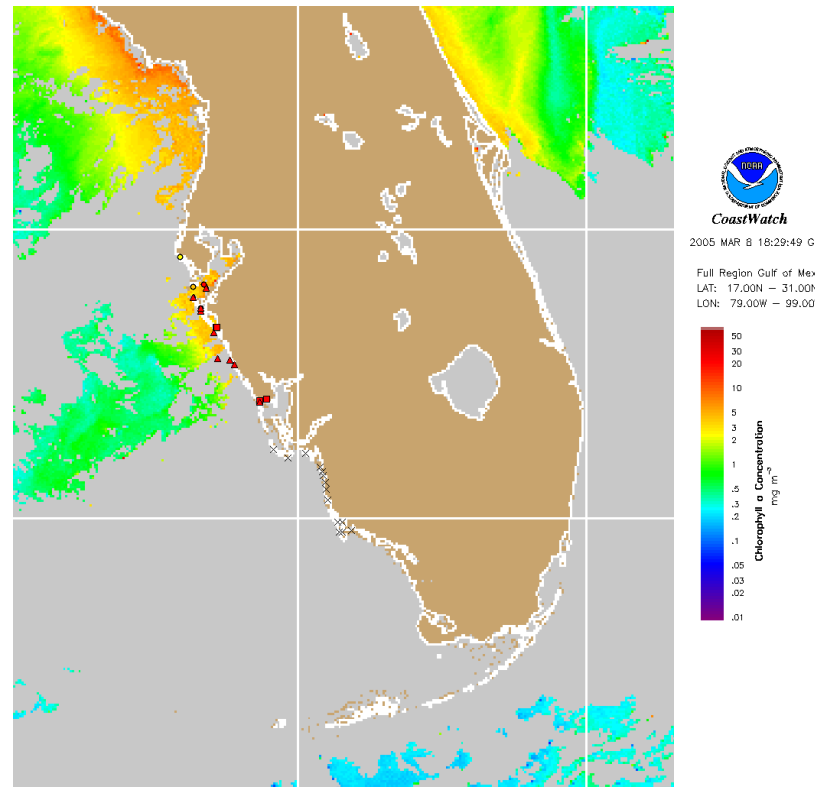
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: March 1, 2005

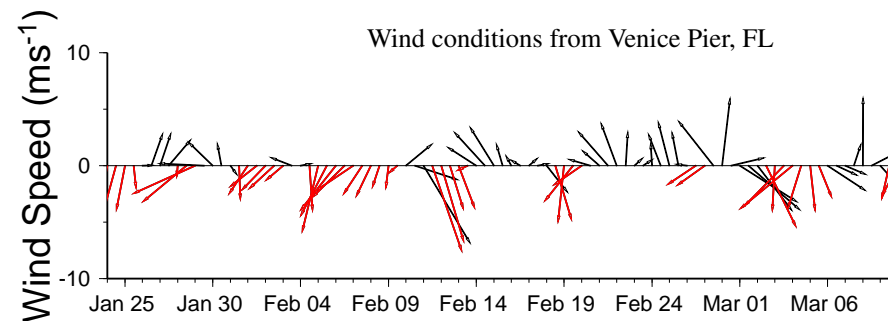
Conditions: A harmful algal bloom has been identified from southern Pinellas to Lee counties. Beach impacts in southern Pinellas County are expected to be low through Monday. Impacts in Manatee, Charlotte, and Lee counties are expected to be patchy low to moderate through Monday. Impacts in Sarasota County are expected to be patchy moderate to high through Monday.

Analysis: Clouds in recent imagery have obscured the extent of the bloom in southwest Florida. Samples from Sarasota County taken on March 7 had several medium concentrations of *Karenia brevis*, and several high concentrations near Venice. Several samples in Lee County from March 7 had diatoms, and one sample had a low concentration of *K. brevis* at Captiva. Since March 4, FWRI verified eighteen manatee deaths from Manatee to Lee counties. Preliminary reports suggest that the cause of death is red tide toxin exposure. Fish kills and respiratory irritation were reported last week in Manatee and Sarasota counties. Slow southward transport of the bloom is expected. Eastward transport of the southern portion of the bloom is likely.

Bronder, Stolz



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from March 4, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

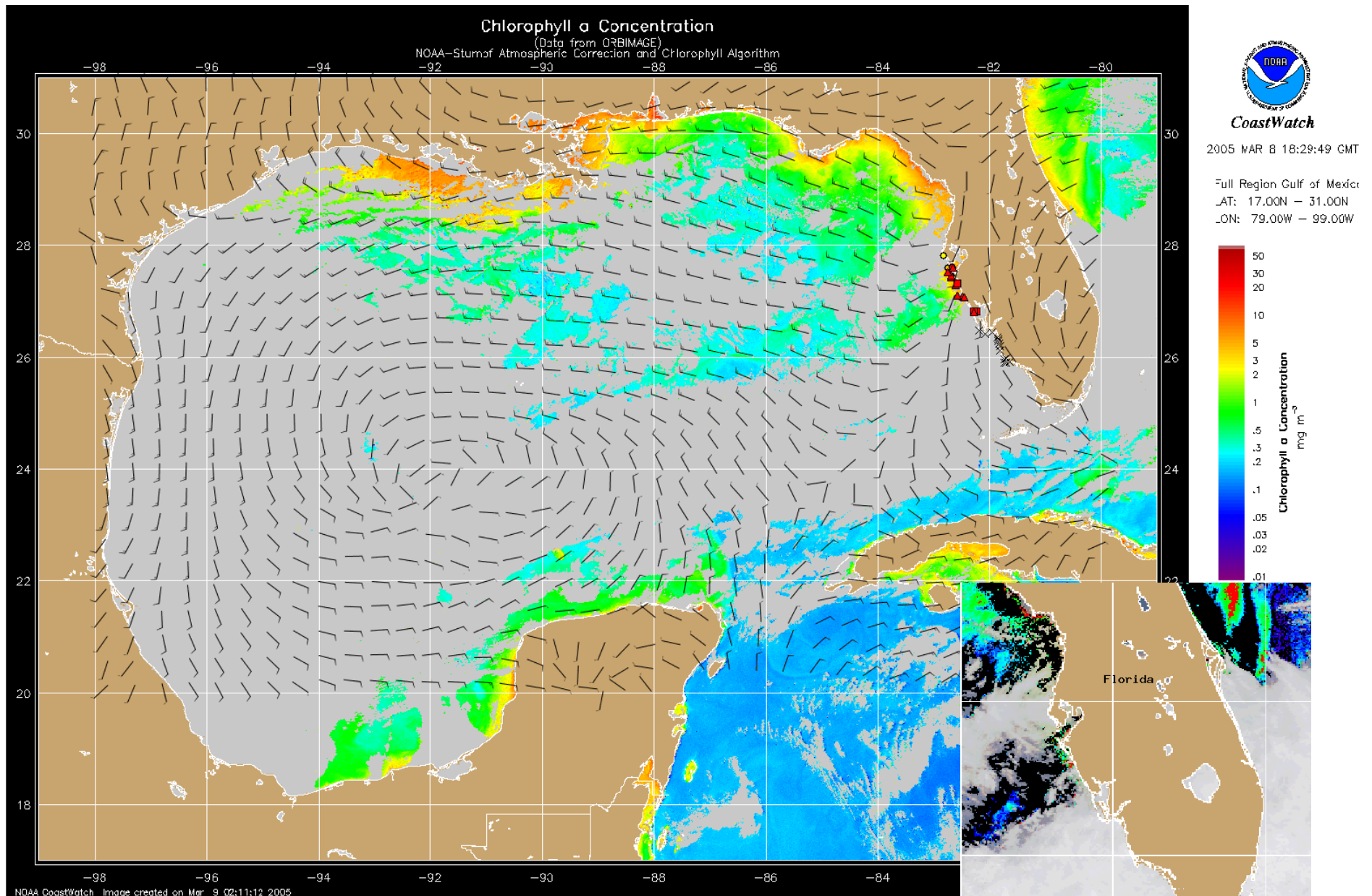


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Winds will be from the north (10-15 kts, 5-8 m/s) today, west (15-20 kts, 8-10 m/s) tomorrow, northwest (20 kts, 10 m/s) Saturday, southwest (10 kts, 5 m/s) Sunday, and south (10-15 kts, 5-8 m/s) Monday.

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. These data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Distribution for military, or commercial purposes is NOT permitted.
3. There are restrictions on Internet/Web/public posting of these data.
4. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for March 11, 2005 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from March 4, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis and image for interpretation)